

Application Serial No. 09/944,712
Examiner: Anh Ly
Art Unit: 2162

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 10731.73USU1

Remarks

This is in response to the non-final Office Action mailed on September 21, 2005. Claims 8, 10, 17, and 19 are canceled. Subject matter from claims 8 and 10 is incorporated into claim 1, and subject matter from claims 17 and 19 is incorporated into claim 12. No new matter is added. Claims 1-7, 9, 11-16, 18, and 20 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

I. Interview Summary

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative, Robert A. Kalinsky, during the telephonic interview on November 16, 2005. During the interview, claim 1 and U.S. Patent No. 5,778,395 were discussed. Agreement regarding the allowability of the claims was reached if subject matter from claims 8 and 10 is incorporated into claim 1, and subject matter from claims 17 and 19 is incorporated into claim 12.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

In section 5 of the Office Action, claims 1, 4, 5, 8-11, 12, and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hazlehurst et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,974,412, in view of Whiting et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,778,395. This rejection is respectfully traversed, reconsideration is requested for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to a data management system. Claim 1 now recites that the file logging processor, the image conversion processors, and the second server processor are parallel processors such that the data files are parallel-processed in a data file logging stage, an image conversion stage, and an image file output stage, and that each of the image conversion processors is capable of converting the data files having the same file type into the corresponding image files. Neither Hazlehurst nor Whiting, alone or in combination, discloses such a system. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1, as well as claims 4, 5, 9, and 11 that depend therefrom, are respectfully requested.

Claim 12 is directed to a data management method. Claim 12 now recites converting the remaining data files into image files, respectively, using a plurality of image conversion

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processors, each of the image conversion processors being capable of converting the data files having the same file type into the corresponding image files, and parallel processing the steps of logging, converting, and exporting such that the data files are parallel-processed in a data file logging stage, an image conversion stage, and an image file output stage. Neither Hazlehurst nor Whiting, alone or in combination, discloses such a method. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 12, as well as claims 18 and 20 that depend therefrom, are respectfully requested.

In section 6 of the Action, claims 2, 3, 6, 7, and 13-16 were rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hazelhurst in view of Whiting and further in view of Schiller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,442,573. This rejection is respectfully traversed, and reconsideration is requested for the following reasons.

Claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 depend from claim 1. Schiller does not remedy the shortcomings of Hazelhurst and Whiting noted above. Claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as those provided above with respect to claim 1. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 13-16 depend from claim 12. Schiller does not remedy the shortcomings of Hazelhurst and Whiting noted above. Claims 13-16 are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as those provided above with respect to claim 12. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

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III. Conclusion

The remarks set forth above provide certain arguments in support of the patentability of the pending claims. There may be other reasons that the pending claims are patentably distinct over the cited references, and the right to raise any such other reasons or arguments in the future is expressly reserved.

Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.
Please contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,
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